

APPROVED: Meeting No. 05-93

ATTEST: 

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND
Meeting No. 04-93

February 8, 1993

The Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, convened in General Session in the Council Chamber, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, on February 8, 1993, at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Douglas M. Duncan

Councilmember James F. Coyle

Councilmember Rose G. Krasnow

Councilmember James T. Marrinan

Councilmember David Robbins
(left at 10:34 p.m.)

In attendance: City Manager Bruce Romer, City Clerk Sharon Gran and City Attorney Paul Glasgow (left at 9:30 p.m.)

Re: City Manager's Report

1. This week marks the retirement of a long-time City employee, Barbara Rhinehart, editor of Rockville Reports, after 16 years of service.
2. In the past, the Mayor and Council has spent considerable time on the issue of speeding on Scott Drive. Staff is continuing to watch over this project carefully and maintain contact with interested citizens. Several months ago, staff prepared a report with three recommendations. Recently, in a conversation with a representative of the area, it was determined that the alternative of

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rumble strips has been deemed undesirable as a deterrent to speeding. Given this new information, this leaves a void in the direction we are pursuing.

Councilmember Robbins was advised that the reason for the objection is the noise and the fact that the strips may not be an effective deterrent.

Staff will continue to interact with Montgomery County with respect to the peripheral development, Willows of Potomac. The long-term issue of traffic circles should be addressed and, at some point, staff will need direction.

In response to Councilmember Marrinan, the City Manager advised that there is considerable interest in a traffic circle.

Councilmember Krasnow noted that there are new rumble strips on Bauer Drive which seem to be effective, and she wondered if the residents are aware of all the different types of strips available. The strips do not have to be permanent.

3. A press release from County Councilmember William Hanna was received today. Mr. Hanna praises the interagency work group's recently released report on the proposal to demolish the Rockville Mall and redevelop the site. This release indicates that the report acknowledges that the County's tax base would benefit substantially from this project alone. The comments should be viewed as a positive step toward approval of County funding for the RCI project.

Re: Recognition of Joyce
Connelly, Principal, St.
Mary's School, recipient of
the 1993 Bishop Thomas W.
Lyons Distinguished
Principal Award

The Mayor and Council presented Joyce Connelly, principal, St. Mary's School, Rockville, with a certificate in recognition of her selection by the Archdiocese of Washington for the

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1993 Bishop Thomas W. Lyons Distinguished Principal Award. Appreciation was expressed for Ms. Connelly's efforts on behalf of the City, including her participation in and support of the DARE Program.

Re: Presentation of awards to the winners of the Elks National 1993 Hoop Shoot Free Throw Contest, co-sponsored by the Recreation and Parks Department

The Mayor and Council and Stanton Sheltra of the Rockville Elks Lodge presented trophies and certificates to the following individuals for their placement in the Elks National 1993 Hoop Shoot Free Throw Contest, co-sponsored by the Recreation and Parks Department:

| | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Andy Tanker | (Boys: Ages 8-9) |
| Ben Fisher | (Boys: Ages 10-11) |
| Adam Radin | (Boys: Ages 12-13) |
| Ashley Sebastian | (Girls: Ages 8-9) |
| Heather Benson | (Girls: Ages 10-11) |
| Sarah Grinder | (Girls: Ages 12-13) |

Re: Citizens Forum

At this time, the Mayor opened the meeting to hear from any citizen who wished to address the Mayor and Council.

1. Margaretta Tutson, 138 Monroe Street, proposed to the Mayor and Council a concept to improve the traffic in Rockville at the intersection of Route 355 and Monroe Street. Plans have been presented regarding an elevator or stairway to facilitate pedestrian access for Americana Centre residents to the Rockville Metro. As a long-time resident of Americana Centre, Mrs. Tutson suggested an alternative to the construction of an elevator and/or stairway as follows:

o set lights to allow pedestrians to cross from all sides with no vehicular traffic allowed during this time;

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- o set lights for north/south traffic, right turn into Metro, right turn toward the Courthouse and left turn from Route 355 into Metro; and
- o set lights for east-west traffic between Metro and Americana Centre with left turn on Route 355 last.

Mayor Duncan stated that staff will look into her suggestion and respond to her.

2. Randy Slovic, 9 Dairyfield Court, advised that on January 23, she participated in a stream monitoring test at Watts Branch to assess the water quality which was determined to be fair. On January 30, the same test done at the Cabin John Creek indicated signs of degradation which she attributes to recent road construction of Tower Oaks extended. She expressed concern with the potential impact on the Watts Branch Creek when the Irvington Farm property is developed.

Ms. Slovic also suggested the need to identify potential sites for a citizen demonstration project of stream restoration in conjunction with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

Mayor Duncan responded that staff would contact Ms. Slovic to identify such a site.

3. Roger Blond, 9003 Scott Drive, referenced the issue of speeding and traffic congestion on Scott Drive.

The City Manager responded that he had earlier advised the Mayor and Council that the neighborhood feels that rumble strips are unacceptable.

Mr. Blond indicated that the traffic circle seems to be the last option available, and he requested that funds for the circle be included in the City's CIP. Mayor Duncan indicated that this will be placed on the budget review list.

4. Walt Davis, 24 Courthouse Square, commented on two activities taking place on Rockville Pike near Congressional Plaza this past weekend. The usual sandwich board advertising was

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occurring; however, the number of participants is increasing which presents a safety hazard. Additionally, students from Penn State were soliciting donations for the fight against cancer which is a worthwhile cause; however, he objects to the manner of the solicitation. Soliciting from the median strip could result in serious accidents, and he asked that something be done before someone gets hurt.

It was agreed that staff will review and address this issue.

5. Jean Brady, Victory Housing, presented a picture of Raphael House, the new housing for the frail elderly in Rockville. She thanked the Mayor and Council and staff for all their assistance. An Open House will be held next Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

This Saturday, the Knights of Columbus at St. Raphael's will hold a garage sale to raise funds for Raphael House; the parish will also hold a silent auction to subsidize low income residents. Currently, 32 of the 36 units are occupied.

6. William Meyer, 804 Leverton Road, referenced Item C on the Consent Agenda, waiver of on-site stormwater management for construction of outdoor storage bins at the Civic Center. He also asked if there is a specific timetable as far as when the City is going to implement mitigation measures for Wootton Parkway. He thought the City had approval for three underground facilities, and it is his understanding that mitigation should be accomplished within two years of the completion of the project.

The City Manager advised that most of it is underway, and Mayor Duncan requested a memo outlining the status of the mitigation.

Insofar as meeting the two-year deadline is concerned, the City Manager advised Councilmember Krasnow that the one acre mitigation site at Woodmont Country Club is an example where the State has asked for more time to review the City's request. He feels confident that the State

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will grant extensions if there is a good faith effort on the part of the City to comply.

There being no other citizens wishing to be heard, the Mayor closed the Citizens Forum portion of the meeting.

Re: Appointments

Upon motion of Councilmember Coyle, duly seconded and unanimously passed, Lynn Fox was reappointed to a two-year term on the Advisory Commission on Public Education.

Upon motion of Councilmember Krasnow, duly seconded and unanimously passed, Charles Goldstein was reappointed to a two-year term on the Cultural Arts Commission.

Upon motion of Councilmember Marrinan, duly seconded and unanimously passed, Walter Davis was appointed to a one-year term as Chairperson of the Human Rights Commission.

Upon motion of Councilmember Marrinan, duly seconded and unanimously passed, Paul Shields was appointed to a two-year term on the Recreation and Park Advisory Board.

Re: Consent Agenda

Item C was removed; at the request of Councilmembers Marrinan and Robbins, Item D was removed from the Consent Agenda and at the request of Councilmember Krasnow, Item E was removed.

Upon motion of Councilmember Marrinan, duly seconded and unanimously passed, the following Consent Agenda Items were approved:

- A. Award of Request for Proposal 45-93 to Boyle Engineering Corporation of Landover, Maryland, in the amount of \$398,524 for engineering services for improvements at the City's Water Plant and intake structure as follows: Water Plant sludge

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disposal; river intake structure; water main; and clarifier walls.

Sufficient funds have been budgeted for this award.

- B. Authorization for the City Manager to purchase four Police Patrol Vehicles under the State of Maryland Bid RFQ63592 for the total cost of \$50,528 through Sheehy Ford of Marlow Heights, Maryland.

This bid will provide four replacement vehicles for the Police Department. There are sufficient funds budgeted for this bid award.

Re: Approval of Waiver No. 5-93 of on-site stormwater management for outdoor storage bins at the Civic Center.

The City's Department of Recreation and Parks plans to construct storage bins on the site.

It was noted that this waiver is in category I-A-3, that is, an existing regional facility with available storage and a small disturbed area of less than 15,000 square feet. The waiver was recommended for approval by the staff stormwater management committee. Staff advised that construction will occur behind the Recreation Services building at the back of the parking lot.

Upon motion of Councilmember Coyle, duly seconded and unanimously passed, Waiver No. 5-93 of on-site stormwater management for outdoor storage bins at the Civic Center (Item C on the Consent Agenda) was approved.

Re: Introduction of Ordinance to amend Chapter 12,

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"Licenses, Permits and Miscellaneous Business Regulations" of the Rockville City Code so as to delete the prohibition of alcoholic beverage consumption on the premises of bowling alleys and pool or billiard rooms to be consistent with recent changes in State law.

Councilmember Marrinan pointed out that he is uneasy about lifting the prohibition because of the family-orientation of these businesses. He is not sure that the Montgomery County Board of License Commissioners has the capacity to adequately monitor such a change.

Councilmember Robbins voiced similar concerns, indicating that more information is needed, particularly from the Police Department with respect to their experiences with establishments that permit alcohol consumption versus those that do not. He questioned the soundness of such a public policy.

In response to Councilmember Krasnow, the City Manager reported that this recommendation was advanced to the Mayor and Council on the theory that Montgomery County has authority to issue liquor licenses in cases where their standards are met. His recommendation was to suggest that perhaps the City should remove from its ordinance the prohibition concerning issuing a business license to bowling alleys which serve alcoholic beverages. Councilmember Krasnow was also advised that the Board of License Commissioners enforces its own laws, and the City, County and in some cases the State police also enforce the liquor laws. It is a shared responsibility within City.

Mayor Duncan commented that his understanding is that State law had changed which made the sale of beer and wine available within bowling alleys and, therefore, the City's prohibition

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became obsolete.

The City Attorney advised that there is an approach whereby such a use (operating a billiard room/bowling alley that serves alcohol) could be prohibited in the Zoning Ordinance which would require a text amendment. Currently, the County has sole jurisdiction under State law to dispense liquor licenses; the City cannot prohibit liquor sales. The City, however, has land use control which could be utilized to deal with this issue.

Background information as to the State Legislature's rationale for approving this amendment was requested by Councilmember Robbins. He feels that this law is contrary to the impetus to reduce the number one drug among youth, alcohol, by unnecessarily exposing kids to its sale and consumption. He also requested information as to this law's applicability in bowling alleys insofar as food/beverage ratios or restricted areas within the facility are concerned.

Councilmember Marrinan again questioned the Liquor Board's capability to effectively monitor implementation of this law within Montgomery County and the City of Rockville. If we extend the sale of alcoholic beverages to these types of establishments, what assurances are there for some type of monitoring.

Mayor Duncan requested that staff ask the County Board of License Commissioners for information as to how they enforce their laws.

The ordinance was duly introduced.

Re: Introduction of Ordinance to
grant Text Amendment
Application T-132-92,
Joseph A. Lynott, Jr.,
attorney for Marlo Furniture
Company, Applicant.

This application requests an

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amendment to the parking quantity requirements of the Zoning Ordinance for furniture stores.

Space designated for storage would not require parking spaces and, since Marlo has asked for this text amendment, Councilmember Krasnow asked how much of their store they plan to use for storage. Councilmember Krasnow asked if there are other furniture stores that will be able to reduce the number of parking spaces and was advised that this amendment would not apply to any existing operations.

The ordinance was duly introduced.

Re: Adoption of Resolution to create a Permit Parking District on the south side of the 400 block of Beall Avenue, from Luckett Street to Lynch Street, and to include 400, 402 and 406 Beall Avenue.

This permit parking area will be incorporated into the existing West End Permit Parking District and will be assigned the permit parking hours of 8:00 a.m. through 8:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Councilmember Krasnow asked if the designation of the 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. hours is unusual. Staff responded that most permit parking districts are assigned the standard hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There are two that have the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., and one that has the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Concern was expressed by Councilmember Krasnow as to the amount of enforcement

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this would require with an 8:00 p.m. ending time. Because she is unsure as to the frequency of the parking problem, she asked for additional information regarding the usage pattern. She feels that there will be a tendency for people to park there anyway for school events.

Mayor Duncan noted that there is a lot of use at the school in the evening although he has personally never experienced a parking problem there later in the evening.

Individuals who testified at the public hearing noted that space is available in the back lot which Councilmember Krasnow has since learned is open to parents. If approving this request will result in individuals from the next block submitting a petition, she noted that we are not solving the problem.

Councilmember Coyle commented that parking in front of school is reserved for school personnel and he recalled a request to ask the school why they couldn't free up that space during the day.

At Councilmember Krasnow's request, action on this item was deferred for two weeks, until the meeting of February 22, to allow staff to obtain follow-up information.

Re: Staff Report on review of
options for ultimate disposal
of solid waste

The City Manager reported that he is providing an update on the project undertaken at the direction of the Mayor and Council regarding ultimate disposal of solid waste. Several months ago, the Mayor and Council received a report from staff indicating that the future of ultimate disposal raised a lot of questions. At that time, the County was undergoing a lengthy review process culminating in their decision to pursue the construction of an incinerator. Staff was requested to undertake a comprehensive review of alternatives available to the City to dispose of refuse.

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The City Manager offered two categories to explain what staff is doing:

1. The issue of disposal options; what staff is doing to identify them.
2. The peripheral issue of the funding mechanism which Montgomery County has adopted concurrent with its decision to proceed with the incinerator.

Staff is organizing to issue a Request for Proposals wherein proposals will be solicited from both the public and private sectors to identify a method for disposal of our solid waste. A staff task force has been formed to pursue this issue to conclusion according to the following principles:

1. Review of the entire process which will be open to all, fair and competitive.
2. In addition to seeking private alternatives, specific overtures will be made to Montgomery County and any other public agencies to participate by proposing a solution to the City's needs.
3. That solution is to be long-term, at least 20 years.
4. The task force is to come up with a cost-effective method that is environmentally sound in every respect and meets or exceeds all known standards for disposal of municipal solid waste.
5. The goal is to have a new disposal method identified for implementation by July 1 of this year.

Montgomery County adopted a funding mechanism, specifically, a systems benefit charge. Staff had been asked to review this charge as part of the current effort. A number of other municipalities are questioning whether or not this applies to municipalities within the County. Some municipal attorneys have generally concluded that the systems benefit charge does not apply to political subdivisions in the County. It is recommended that Montgomery County Government be put on notice that this charge does not apply to the City. A draft letter to the County has been prepared.

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If the charges do not apply to municipalities, Councilmember Marrinan asked what the impact will be on funding to the County assuming that legally they cannot impose a fee on municipalities. He wondered how this whole issue will evolve over time.

The City Attorney responded that some of the 14 municipalities may wish it to apply so, therefore, it is difficult to respond at this time.

It was noted by Mayor Duncan that County staff has done a memo to the County Council regarding the systems benefit charge which includes municipalities as well as expanding the countywide disposal district with municipalities not included.

Mayor Duncan commented that this is a home rule issue; the choice as to whether municipalities participate in the County system should be left to the municipalities.

Councilmember Robbins questioned the timetable for this task force, and the City Manager responded that he hopes to have an alternative identified and available for use by July 1, 1993.

From what she has read, Councilmember Krasnow noted that there could be a moratorium on all incinerator building throughout the country. It could, therefore, be years before they get all the permits and are ready to operate. The City Manager noted that staff will bear this in mind as it is a very important evaluation point.

Regarding efforts to reduce the waste streams through recycling, Councilmember Coyle asked how this ties into potential alternatives, noting that we could need a higher level of service in the long term rather than less. Recyclables lend themselves to disposal by incinerator.

There are a number of properties in the City, such as apartment complexes, which use private companies for refuse collection. Councilmember Coyle requested that staff review how we

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could include these properties in our proposal.

The current figures from the County indicate that as much as 40% of refuse collected in the County is not being disposed of in the County, and staff was asked to proceed with this proposal as a cooperative effort with other jurisdictions.

The City Manager is looking at some of these issues. Rockville is unique in that it has a homogenous refuse system. Staff will look at every opportunity to cooperate.

Mayor Duncan noted that the City has agreed to put a piggyback provision in any contract so that other jurisdictions could come into the contract if they so choose. It is important that the other municipalities are kept apprised of the City's action.

With respect to the draft letter to the County, Mayor Duncan requested that they be advised more directly why it is the City's opinion that the charge does not apply within Rockville, that is, it is a regulatory measure under Chapter 48 of the Montgomery County Code and the City has elected not to have Chapter 48 of the County Code apply within Rockville. This would force the County to address the issue as to whether or not this is a fee. If it is a tax, we are looking at a whole separate issue. He also requested that a letter be sent to other municipalities in the County advising them of the City's action in pursuing an alternative and suggesting that they do the same.

Councilmember Coyle commented that it may be worthwhile to provide a history of the increase of the tipping fee, perhaps as far back as 10 years.

Mayor Duncan has requested that the February 25 agenda for the County Chapter of Maryland Municipal League meeting with Neal Potter include the issue of trash disposal.

Upon motion of Councilmember Marrinan, duly seconded and unanimously passed, the Mayor and Council agreed to send a letter to the County Council and County Executive advising them

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of the City's position with respect to their recently adopted solid waste legislation and to follow up with a letter to municipalities in the County.

Re: FYI/Correspondence

Civic Center Mansion Rededication

Mayor Duncan noted that he likes the new sign. With respect to the old plaque that is being restored, Mayor Duncan was advised that it lists the members of the Mayor and Council at the time the Mansion was acquired and includes a notation that it is dedicated to the people of Rockville.

SWM Task Force Recommendations Status Report

Councilmember Krasnow had read in the Science and Technology Commission minutes that they are forming a stormwater management subcommittee and asked if they will be following up on the recommendations of the SWM Task Force. The City Manager responded that the focus of the committee is stormwater management related issues. The Science and Technology Commission had been asked to oversee the recommendations of the SWM Task Force, particularly the educational effort. More information regarding this matter will be gathered for the Mayor and Council. It was noted that other persons from the community are being drawn into the subcommittee, and the structure of the committee will be reviewed.

Harriot Manley, 826 Fordham, commented that she is a member of the subcommittee and that they are meeting tomorrow night. They will be looking at several issues addressed by the Task Force, and the chairperson, Bob Slovic, hopes to continue to monitor the recommendations of the SWM Task Force.

With respect to the sediment problems at the Tower Oaks construction site, Councilmember Krasnow asked if this is an area where the City can step up enforcement, and the City

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Manager agreed to follow up in this matter.

Term Limits

It was agreed that a letter would be sent to the Civic Association presidents and other community leaders regarding the public hearing on term limits.

Re: New Business

Councilmember Coyle noted the recent issue of Municipal Maryland which contains an article by Jacqueline Rogers, Secretary of Housing and Community Development for the State, concerning building codes. A proposal is being set forth that all municipalities which have adopted building codes are to use the latest edition of BOCA. Jurisdictions which do not enforce a building code would be required to adopt the Maryland Building Performance Standards within a three-year period. He expressed concern that this could be a door opener, eventually leading to the State usurping home rule jurisdiction regarding building codes.

Mayor Duncan indicated that this issue should be discussed with the Montgomery County Chapter of the Maryland Municipal League, although it does not affect any municipality in Montgomery County.

With respect to the Town Center Inn development, Councilmember Coyle has been advised that the building on North Washington Street will be sprinklered, but there is no requirement that the building on Beall Avenue be retrofitted with sprinklers. If sprinklers are being installed in one building, then they should be required in the other. He hopes that the architectural design will conceal the sprinklers in this development to ensure an aesthetically pleasing environment.

The issue of newspapers being tossed onto driveways and sidewalks rather than being placed on doorsteps has been raised again. Councilmember Coyle noted the need to discuss the

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delivery system with local newspaper representatives.

Mayor Duncan reported that the County Council worked out an agreement with the newspapers to resolve this problem. He suggested that staff request information from County Councilmember Gail Ewing.

With respect to the information provided by Chief Treschuk on police pursuit, Councilmember Coyle noted that in most instances it is the offender causing the problem. At some point, he feels that the issue of police pursuits should be discussed by the Mayor and Council as a policy matter.

As part of the budget process, Councilmember Coyle requested an update on implementation of the Child Care Task Force recommendations. He noted the importance of ensuring that no opportunities are missed with respect to the provision of day care. Mayor Duncan commented that Foulger-Pratt is presenting day care as one of their options for development in the Town Center.

Hispanics United for Rockville

Galo Correa has asked the City for help in sponsoring a meeting with representatives of the Economic Development Council and the Department of Community Development. The meeting would be held in Spanish to target the Hispanic community. The Mayor and Council agreed to recommend that the City Manager proceed to schedule such a meeting.

Re: Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Mayor and Council is a General Session to be held on February 22, 1993.

Re: Worksession - FY94 Budget
Issues

The City Manager noted that this is an opportunity to preview some of the budget issues

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in the FY94 budget. An outline of the issues was included in the brief book.

Economic Outlook

Kevin Deckard, Finance Director, provided the following FY93 economic overview:

- o Office vacancies - last year's vacancy rates have continued into this fiscal year.
- o Downward reassessment of commercial properties. The market value of Rockville corporations has dropped by \$150 million, reducing the property tax base by \$487,000.
- o Stable house prices, decline in overall tax base.
- o Health insurance spike. The City has a three-year commitment on health insurance and, although major increases in premiums are anticipated, the medical Consumer Price Index provisions should help cushion further increases in the next few years.
- o Low-growth revenue picture constrains employee compensation levels. An additional \$400,000 in FY94 revenues is projected.

Factors Influencing FY94 Proposed Budget:

- o Lingering impact of recession
- o Effects of Town Center policies
- o Effects of State, County cutbacks
- o General fund subsidies for Swim Center, Parking Garage
- o CIP impact on debt. Staff will continue to conserve wherever possible.

Futures Issues Beyond FY94:

- o Absorption of vacant office space
- o Expansion of tax base
- o CIP - debt

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With respect to the impending annexations, Councilmember Coyle asked if there is any information on what the short-run costs to the City would be. The City Manager reported that the Community Development Department has developed a model which shows various scenarios.

A modest growth in assessed value is projected over the next few years.

Police Department

Chief Treschuk provided the following overview of current Police Department operations:

- o Implemented new work schedule for police officers, the net effect of which is to put more officers on the road.
- o Handled over 11,300 calls for service. The City Police are responding to 44% of the Rockville calls as compared to 27% four years ago. Chief Treschuk was requested to provide figures for the total number of police calls in Rockville during the last four years and any trends projected for future years.
- o Maintained commitment to Municipal Drug Task Force
- o Initiated successful Rockville Investigative Services program. This unit handles follow-ups on all burglaries in the City and has a 65% success rate as compared to the normal success rate for burglaries of 17-18%.
- o Continued successful neighborhood oriented policing programs
- o Expanded, at no cost, our D.A.R.E. outreach program
- o Continued implementation of successful Animal Control laws and programs. The number of licenses is up approximately 1,000 over last year, and there are approximately 22-23 Animal Reviews and Animal Matters Board hearings.

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- o Continued pursuit of national accreditation. The accreditation process will be completed this fiscal year.

- o Expanded outreach programs (Lincoln Park/Hispanics United for Rockville/Asian/business community)

Councilmember Coyle asked if we receive any state police service in the City and was advised that such service is provided only on Routes I-270 and 495. He requested information as to how the County is using its allocation of police manhours in Rockville. It was noted that the City will not commit any more than the current level of resources to Lincoln Park.

- o Maintained high-level special event coverage

Mayor Duncan emphasized the need to look at the long-term picture of police services as event driven rather than calendar driven. For example, for x number of new homes in the City, what is the impact on police services. "Units of service" was offered as an appropriate means of measurement. This same concept would also apply to Recreation and Parks.

Factors Influencing FY94 Proposed Budget:

- o Maintenance of current level of service
- o Continued implementation of neighborhood oriented policing
- o Legislative issues:
 - a. Private event services
 - b. Animal Control fees

Futures Issues Beyond FY94:

- o The continued rebirth of Town Center area will bring forth specific public safety issues (Town Center security patrols, expanded business foot patrols, traffic flow, etc.).

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- o Any decreases in county police services due to budget constraints may increase the present workload and calls for service.
- o Annexations will require review of police service expectations.

Public Works

Robert Goodin, Director of Public Works, presented the following overview of his department's current activities:

- o Began department organization study
- o Completed W. Montgomery paving and Maryland Avenue Sidewalk
- o Continued smoothseal and concrete maintenance contracts
- o Implemented various Water Treatment Plant matters in accordance with mandates
- o Certified, as mandated, all Water Treatment Plant and Water/Sewer System employees
- o Purchased equipment, trained for Maryland OSHA Trench Safety, as mandated
- o Replaced/upgraded underground fuel storage tanks as mandated

Factors Influencing FY94 Proposed Budget:

- o Greater sanitary sewage disposal cost - mandate
- o PEPCO street light rate increase - mandate
- o Implementation of stormwater management (SWM) Task Force recommendations
- o Continue Super Service Refuse Collection
- o Replace Fleet Management software and add fuel monitor
- o Montgomery County leaf handling delays - mandate
- o Continue National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Mandate
- o Courtesy newspaper collection

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Futures Issues Beyond FY94:

- o Ultimate disposal of solid waste
- o Develop employee empowerment
- o State, Federal and County Mandates
- o Variable Motor Vehicle Maintenance fleet replacement cost
- o Review fleet maintenance contracting
- o Explore "design-built" contracts
- o City development and redevelopment
- o Improving the aging infrastructure
- o Improving City services and reducing costs

In view of federal and state mandates, there is a significant percentage of the proposed budget over which the City has no control.

Community Services

Josephine Roberts, Director of Community Services, provided the following overview of the department:

- o Conducted departmental assessment
- o Increased the amount of negotiated remedies in formal Human Rights cases
- o Successfully expanded Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration
- o Carried out the "Calling on America" campaign
- o Collected an increased amount of donations for the Holiday Drive (Over \$20,000 was received in 1992; the goal was \$17,000.)
- o Provided services for an increased number of clients

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- o Implemented workshops for Hispanic and Asian clients
- o Continued emphasis on strengthening family through programs and services

Councilmember Krasnow noted that there are a number of requests from REAP (Rockville Emergency Assistance Program) and asked if funds have been exhausted. Staff responded that the last check was just issued. Councilmember Krasnow noted that the trend is to look more to businesses to help with social services issues.

Factors Influencing FY94 Proposed Budget:

- o Cutbacks in government funding. (New and innovative approaches are needed)
- o Needs assessment.
- o Consolidation of services - coordination and cooperation among service providers.
- o Promotion of self-help initiatives.

Future Issues Beyond FY94

- o To assure adequate level of social services available to residents, particularly those most vulnerable.
- o Increasing cultural diversity.

Community Development

Neal Herst, Director of Community Development, provided the following overview of 1993 Community Development issues:

- o Completed work on the Affordable Housing Demonstration Program
- o Began work funded by the FTA Grant
- o Physically reorganized the Community Development office space
- o Processed the Irvington Farm, Thomas Farm and St. Elizabeth's Church and School

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annexations

- o Facilitated major Town Center projects including the IBEW/Middle Lane and Rockville Metro Center properties
- o Computerized Inspection Services record keeping and interdepartmental electronic networking
- o Began distributing "Welcome to Rockville" business packages. Sixty-three new businesses have opened in Rockville during the first nine months of 1992.

Factors Influencing FY94 Proposed Budget:

- o Implementation of the Economic Development Plan
- o Finalization and implementation of the Master Plan
- o Historic Preservation issues
- o Land use and zoning issues including the FTA project
- o Implementation of major annexations and Town Center project

Future Issues Beyond FY94:

- o Housing affordability, development and preservation
- o Economic development
- o Zoning and traffic issues
- o City/residential/business community relationships

There was discussion of the businesses on N. Washington Street which have recently closed and the fact that the Chamber of Commerce is working with the department in an effort to retain small businesses in Rockville. A list of the 63 new businesses was requested.

Marketing of the new Economic Development magazine will begin the end of February.

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Personnel

Richard Hajewski, Director of Personnel, provided the following overview of the department's FY93 issues:

- o Continued revision of the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual. There was discussion regarding the availability of policies and procedures as needed.
- o Provided personnel and safety issues training (including sensitivity training and education regarding implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act)
- o Completed contract negotiations with AFSCME
- o Continued working to update Affirmative Action Plan
- o Installed and managed the revised Performance Appraisal and Planning System
- o Adjusted and ongoing monitoring of internal systems to assure compliance with changes in the various laws (i.e., ADA, OSHA, etc.)

Factors Influencing FY94 Proposed Budget:

- o Increase in analysis, monitoring and administration of existing programs to improvement the quality of City staff (i.e., Performance Appraisal, Driver's Licensing Checking, etc.)
- o Continue training in areas of safety, supervision, etc.
- o Assuring compliance to mandated changes in the various laws (i.e., Blood-Borne Pathogens Standard)
- o Promotion of internal counseling and utilization of the Employee Assistance Program
- o New approaches to Employee Special Events

Future Issues Beyond FY94:

- o Continue revision to policies, procedures, rules, regulations, etc.

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- o Identify more creative ways to acknowledge service, performance, etc.
- o Identify more creative and efficient ways to provide benefits, physicals, etc.
- o More proactive role in labor and employee relations, classification, affirmative action, etc. to assure the most appropriate, efficient work force

Recreation and Parks

Burt Hall, Director of Recreation and Parks, provided the following overview of the department:

- o Continued emphasis on progressive preventive maintenance. (In the last four years, there has been less than a 1% increase per year in facility management costs.)
- o Parks/right-of-way/building maintenance needs increase - costs absorbed.
- o Playgrounds, classes, camps and sports participation booming
- o Swim Center participation/revenues - 9% increase over last year
- o Redgate surpasses 60,000 rounds again - clubhouse construction on schedule.
- o Civic Center Mansion use up slightly - Theatre use steady.
- o Senior Center membership down - program participation steady.
- o Americans with Disabilities Act facility study nearly complete. (Report by March 1)
- o Forest/Tree Preservation Ordinance implementation begins.
- o Programs remain accessible to all citizens.

Factors Influencing FY94 Proposed Budget:

- o Continuation of newly imposed program fees.
- o Mandates increase costs (ADA, FLSA, day care/camp license, etc.)
- o Orderly transfer for stormwater facility maintenance to Public Works.

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- o Contract maintenance costs continue to grow.

Future Issues Beyond FY94:

- o Town Center redevelopment affects Special Events.
- o Study contract maintenance specifications - may improve efficiency/costs.
- o Major equipment replacements on hold.
- o Lack of indoor facilities/ballfields remains a problem.
- o Parks/Recreation/Open Space Planning for Iryington and Thomas Farms. (The recommendation is that these properties should be maintained at levels enjoyed by current residents.)

Finance

Kevin Deckard, Director of Finance, provided the following overview on the department's current activities:

- o New banking services contract with Crestar.
- o Upgraded budget for greater goal orientation (improve communication quality of budget).
- o Permitting system, recreation registration system (being completed by Data Processing).

Factors Influencing FY94 Proposed Budget:

- o Switch to paying bank charges directly instead of compensating balance
- o Containment of telephone charges
- o Cancellation of LGFS maintenance agreement

Future Issues Beyond FY94:

None.

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Bruce Romer, City Manager, noted the following issues being addressed in his department:

- o Monthly distribution of Rockville Reports
- o Completed successful legislative program
- o Established ADA Implementation Program
- o Expanded Employee Wellness Program
- o Expanded the office waste recycling program
- o Cable TV programming expansion and increased audience

Factors Influencing FY94 Proposed Budget:

- o Purchase of main floor copier
- o Reorganization of Public Information/Cable Office
- o ADA related concerns:
 - a. providing accommodations (e.g., sign language interpreters)
 - b. continue employee training
 - c. monitoring building retrofitting

Future Issues Beyond FY94:

- o 100th anniversary commemoration of F. Scott Fitzgerald
- o Oversight of Town Center project
- o Oversight of annexations
- o Develop long-term strategic legislative plans
- o Enhance communications between citizens and City government.
- o Increase intergovernmental cooperation

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- o Long-term solution for solid waste

Outside Agency Requests**FY93 Overview:**

- o Funded 18 agencies.
- o Cut Rockville Arts Place funding by \$7,500.
- o Awarded trash removal responsibilities for Housing Authority.

Factors Influencing FY94 Proposed Budget:

- o Agencies experiencing financial hardship
- o Continue Housing Authority refuse removal
- o Housing Authority, Community Ministries - new counseling programs to be funded.
- o Rockville Arts Place status

Future Issues Beyond FY94:

- o Identification of City's mission in this area
- o Number of agencies being funded

Councilmember Coyle asked if there is some means for analyzing the issue of residency with respect to outside agencies.

Re: Adjournment

Upon motion of Councilmember Krasnow, duly seconded and unanimously passed, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 p.m., to convene again in General Session on Monday, February 22, 1993, at 7:30 p.m., or at the call of the Mayor.